VII. DEATHS

Secretary Kennedy reported the death of one administrator and one faculty member. The following memorial statements were adopted:

The Regents of the University were shocked and saddened at the untimely death of Chancellor CONNY E. NELSON, who had served as the chief executive officer at The University of Michigan-Flint since 1980, and who died on May 2, 1983, at the age of 50.

A native of the state of Washington, Chancellor Nelson received all of his early academic training, including the Ph.D., at the University of Washington. His discipline was English and comparative literature. He was appointed an instructor at Washington State University and remained there until his dissertation was completed in 1964. He then served at Purdue University as an assistant and associate professor until 1968, when he returned to Washington State.

Beginning in 1970, Conny Nelson began an almost meteoric rise through the academic and administrative ranks. From 1970 to 1972, he served as professor of English and chairman of the Division of Arts and Communication at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. In 1972, he became assistant to the vice chancellor at that same institution. He was named professor of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1974 and simultaneously served as assistant vice president of academic affairs for the Nebraska system until 1976, when he became vice president for academic affairs and professor of English at the University of North Dakota. In 1980, the Regents of The University of Michigan named him chancellor of The University of Michigan-Flint.

His administration of that campus, though brief, was characterized by a remarkable development of program initiatives, which built upon the already solid foundation of liberal arts and sciences. By expanding and broadening offerings in business administration, computer sciences, and the health science areas, among others, he generated a steady increase in enrollment and a new awareness in the people of the community of the rich educational resource that was maturing in their midst.

And, he brought wit, intelligence, and good grace to his fellow executive officers in his role as part of the overall administration of the University, a task which he clearly relished.

An uncommon man was this gifted young author, poet, teacher, and administrator. His several talents were uniquely applied in advancing the interests of his discipline, sharing his knowledge with students and colleagues, and administering and directing institutional resources in the pursuit of excellence, which he saw as the ultimate goal of higher education.

For his energy, his enthusiasm, and his commitment to the University, he will be truly missed. And, the Regents now extend to his wife and family their deepest sympathies at his passing, and convey their sincere regard for them at the loss they have sustained.

It is with deep sadness that the Regents of the University acknowledge the loss of L. HART WRIGHT, the Paul G. Kauper Professor of Law, who died on April 12, 1983, at the age of 65.

Born in Chickasha, Oklahoma, Professor Wright earned a bachelor of arts degree in 1939 and a bachelor of laws degree in 1941, both from the University of Oklahoma. After service in World War II, he earned a master of laws degree from the University of Michigan Law School in 1946.

At that time, Professor Wright joined the Law School faculty and began a long career of devotion to the welfare of the school and the larger University. During his more than 35 years on the faculty, he served on many University-wide committees, notably the faculty Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs. He chaired the Board in Control of Student Publications and the SACUA Committee on Staff Excellence in addition to numerous committees within the Law School.
Professor Wright earned an international reputation as a student of taxation, and his contributions as a public servant were of sufficient importance that the Treasury Department conferred upon him the Civilian Meritorious Service Award, the highest civilian award given by the government. But it was as a teacher that he made his most significant contribution and from which he derived his deepest professional satisfactions. He brought to the classroom consummate professional skill, intense moral commitment, and a profound concern for his students. Among generations of graduates of the Law School, Professor Wright’s scorn for mere transmission of information without critical analysis and his skill at cultivating the powers of legal reasoning are legendary.

The Regents join Professor Wright’s colleagues and students at the Law School and many others throughout the entire University community in mourning the loss of so vital and generous a member of our intellectual community.

VIII. DEGREES

On recommendation of the proper faculty in each case, the Regents approved the following amendments to the degree lists:

Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies

Master of Arts, May 1980
English Language and Literature
add:
David Allen Victor, A.B.

College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Bachelor of Arts, December 20, 1982
add:
Calvin John Matle

Bachelor of Arts, August 20, 1982
add:
Cecilia Margaret Mueller

Bachelor of Arts, May 1, 1981
add:
Pamela Kay Burner

Vice-President Brinkerhoff remarked that Carl Smith, director of University audits, would comment upon the six-month report on University audits and would respond to any questions. He noted the additional information in the agenda which the Regents had requested which is a follow-up of the status of implementation of recommendations made by Price Waterhouse and the Internal Audit Department.

Mr. Smith discussed the current staffing of the department and review the status of the follow-up material of both the internal audits and the Price Waterhouse recommendations. He indicated that the internal audit department has gone through a major transition in the last six months which has left the department approximately three and one-half auditors short. As a result of this, as well as involvement in auditing the student financial aid programs, there was a period between February and mid-March when no reports were issued. New staff members have been hired, and, as soon as a replacement for a senior auditor who recently resigned has been appointed, the current needs of the department will be met.